

Arizona Republican's Editorial Page

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Dwight R. Heard.....President and Manager
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Earl W. Cate.....Assistant Business Manager
W. Spear.....Editor

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SATURDAY MORNING, JANUARY 1, 1916

Let bygones be bygones
Who's huffed at another,
Dinna clout the auld days
And the new ones together;
Wi' the faults and the failings
O' past years be done,
Wi' a grip o' fresh green ship
A New Year begin.
— Old Scotch Song.

A Statement

At this, the beginning of a new year, it seems proper for The Republican to answer the question which has recently been often asked pointedly or indirectly as to its position politically in the approaching campaign. Much interest has been expressed by voters of all parties as to the course The Republican will follow in the state and national campaigns this year, and as usual The Republican is prepared to make a definite statement of its exact position.

In state and county affairs our course will be a thoroughly independent one and our support will be given to those whose character and efficiency seem to best qualify them for the positions which they seek. This independent course will be taken for the reason that we feel we can thus best serve the state and community. We believe that the time is opportune to launch in Arizona a strictly independent movement, based solely on the need of thoroughly efficient, economical, clear-headed, businesslike government, and if we can secure such government by men of capacity and integrity we have little interest under what partisan banner they may serve. We shall certainly support no candidate merely because he has been nominated by a certain party. His own merits must be the determining factor.

Fortunately voters are getting away from the narrow partisan lines which have so long enshrouded them. This slavery to partisan politics has too often resulted in extravagant and inefficient government. Men who should be good officials and who ought to be able to conduct public affairs as economically as their own, once in office, often fall victims to the party slavery system. Their own capabilities are thrown to the winds, their sense of public honesty blunted, they cease to rely upon their own merits but rest their fortunes upon the blind loyalty of the party voter.

In national affairs we have a strong hope that the Republican party may become a really progressive party with a clear-cut national program which recognizes the economic needs of the present critical situation in America, and, fearlessly, the vital social and industrial questions confronting the nation. If such policies are outlined in its national platform and the leadership is in the hands of men of the Hughes, Roosevelt or Cummins type, it will have our vigorous support. There is one thing, however, that we believe is as true in Arizona as it is throughout the entire country, and that is this, that the four million men and women who voted for the progressive candidate in 1912 will not support reactionary candidates on a reactionary republican platform. Should the reactionary force, led by the old men of the sea who have nearly throttled the republican party, control the 1916 Chicago convention, those men and women who fought the progressive fight for clean government in 1912 will be forced to put up a national progressive ticket or support some other ticket which will appeal to voters of courage and conviction. They would much prefer, however, to vote with the rank and file of the republican party under liberal leadership.

We believe that in clearly stating, as we have above, our definite position, we are voicing the sentiment of those men and women in Arizona who realize that we are facing in America a real crisis and that we need as leaders progressive men of ability, courage and patriotism.

As We Retire Again

The United States is getting ready for a grand back-down in the Anconia affair, as it was, perhaps, generally expected it would do; as it did in the Lusitania incident after announcing that it would hold Germany to a "strict accountability," and would "omit no word or deed" to enforce its view of international law. The note to Austria was much more translucent. It left Austria but three things to do: To disavow the act of the submarine commander in sinking the Anconia without giving passengers and crew time to escape; to punish the commander and to promise that there should be no repetition of the incident.

Austria has done none of these things. It has punished the commander (though, we presume, with a slight reprimand), and not in compliance with our demand, but for neglecting under the rules to take into account the state of panic that existed on the Anconia during the launching of the boats; it has made no disavowal of the sinking of the Anconia

and has given no promise as to its future conduct. It reiterates, what we lately regarded as impertinent, its request for information as to the source of our government's knowledge of the Anconia affair and reiterates, also, its defense of all the acts of the submarine commander except his failure to take into account the state of panic that prevailed on the steamer.

It asserts that the loss of life was largely due to the inefficiency and folly of the crew of the Anconia and that contention seems to have been borne out by the statement of Dr. Cecile de Greil, an American passenger on the Anconia, who said, "Of the action of the crew I do not desire to say anything. Of fifteen boats launched, only eight got away." However, Austria expresses a willingness to pay such indemnity as may be found to be just. Our government is disposed to get out of it this way: We shall regard the submarine commander as having been punished; we shall consider his "punishment" as a sufficient disavowal, such as we demanded, and "assurance" that an offense for which an official of the navy was punished would not happen again, might be taken for granted.

We hasten to save our face, to put a forced construction upon the latest Austrian note, in spite of the very evident fact that the Austrian government did not intend it to carry any such a meaning. The remaining question of indemnity is a very unimportant one and has not the slightest bearing upon the principle upon which we stood when we framed the first note. Few American citizens actually lost their lives with the Anconia and those who perished were all naturalized citizens of Italian birth.

This government has been out into the position of having attempted another meaningless bluff which the Austrian government has generally ignored, or else we had hastily taken a position without a sufficient inquiry into the facts of the sinking of the Anconia. But in either case the American government is now presenting to the world the rather monotonous spectacle of emerging backward from a hole it entered so fiercely only a month ago.

The New Year

The world has come this morning to the beginning of another new year. For this part of the world it is a brighter one. For the other part of it there is only deeper gloom. The end of the war is not in sight. In spite of all the peace talk there is nowhere the slightest sign of peace. There is nowhere any evidence of exhaustion which might induce or force peace.

We on this side have gone through two years of dejection, but for almost six months it has been gradually lifting. With the breaking out of the war there was a tendency to stand still. Indeed, before the breaking out of the war, there was a tendency to slow down to await the result of recent national legislation. There was no shortage of money and there was likely to be none. But, as it always happens in times of doubt, money was collected and lay inert and idle. Manufactures were curtailed to the most urgent needs. Merchants bought sparingly because they felt that their customers, too, were going to slow down.

Railroad construction was halted and development generally, naturally, came to a standstill. Money was available for neither. The only unusual activity in the country was in the factories engaged in the manufacture of war material. For them there was plenty of money. But their prosperity reflected no general situation throughout the country and it contributed nothing to the country's prosperity. It assisted only in making a good showing in our export account, which is frequently a meaningless index of the state of trade and finance in the country.

But six months ago there was a feeling that we had waited long enough on the war and it was realized that as long as the war lasted we need fear nothing from any national legislation that had been enacted and which had administered to us our first scare. Merchants began buying heavily for the winter trade and their optimism, according to reports from all parts of the country, was warranted. Many factories which had lain idle for a year resumed operations and now, at the beginning of the year, conditions the country over are better than they have been for three years.

Our own local situation has vastly improved. Copper mining, on which so much in this state depends, was greatly curtailed a year ago. Not a mine in the state was running at more than half its capacity. There was little demand for copper; there was almost none at home and three-fourths of our foreign market had been closed against us by an embargo on copper, so that we were selling only a limited amount to the allies at a small price. They were buying the greater part of their supply elsewhere. But now, except in the Clifton district, the mines are busier than they have ever been in turning out copper at prices which the most optimistic would not have dared a year ago to predict.

In this situation, and because of local financial disturbances a year ago, Phoenix entered upon a peculiar period of depression. The trade of the merchants fell off and real estate ceased to move. That was a condition that obtained through the spring, summer and early fall. Those were months of discouragement. But in mid-fall there came a change. Business picked up unexpectedly and much real estate has changed hands within the last month or two. A great deal of new money has come into the community to pay for country real estate.

The outlook has continued to grow brighter, so that we believe that with the opening of spring there will be many new private undertakings. We believe, also, that we are about to enter upon an era of great municipal improvement.

Altogether, we think that this is the best New Year Arizona, Phoenix and the Salt River Valley have met for some years. It promises much for the mines, the merchants, the livestock men and for laboring men. It is only necessary that there should be a getting together to avail themselves of all the good things that the New Year has in its lap.

Ring Out, Wild Bells

Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky,
The flying cloud, the frosty night;
The year is dying in the night;
Ring out, wild bells, and let him die.

Ring out the old, ring in the new,
Ring, happy bells across the snow;
The year is going, let her go;
Ring out the false, ring in the true.

Ring out the grief that saps the mind,
For those that here we see no more;
Ring out the feud of rich and poor,
Ring in redress to all mankind.

Ring out a slowly dying cause,
And ancient forms of party strife;
Ring in the nobler modes of life,
With sweeter manners, purer laws.

Ring out the want, the care, the sin,
The faithless coldness of the times;
Ring out, ring out the mournful rhymes,
But ring the fuller minstrel in.

Ring out false pride in place and blood,
The civic slander and the spite;
Ring in the love of truth and right,
Ring in the common love of good.

Ring out old shapes of foul disease;
Ring out the narrowing lust of gold;
Ring out the thousand wars of old,
Ring in the thousand years of peace.

Ring in the valiant man and free,
The larger heart, the kindlier hand;
Ring out the darkness of the land,
Ring in the Christ that is to be.
From "In Memoriam"—Tennyson.

International Sunday School Lesson for Jan. 2

THE ASCENDING LORD
Golden Text.—When he ascended on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. Eph. 4: 8.
Lesson Text.—Acts 1: 1-14. Commit vs. 10, 11.

(1) The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach. (2) Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen: (3) To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God: (4) And being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me. (5) For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence. (6) When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? (7) And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. (8) But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you, and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. (9) And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. (10) And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel: (11) Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven. (12) Then returned they unto Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is from Jerusalem a sabbath day's journey. (13) And when they were come in, they went up into an upper room, where abode both Peter, and James, and John, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew, and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon Zeotes, and Judas the brother of James. (14) These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren.

Time.—Tuesday, May 18, A. D. 30.
Places.—Jerusalem and Olivet.
Exposition.—1. The Risen Christ. 1-5. The book of Acts was written by Luke the author of the third Gospel. In that "treatise" he recorded all that Jesus began to do and teach. 1, i. e. what He did and taught during His earthly life. In Acts he relates what Jesus continued to do and teach, i. e. after His ascension. Just before His ascension, He had given the disciples commandments (v. 2, cf. Mat. 28: 19, 20; Mk. 16: 15-19; Lu. 24: 45-49; ch. 10: 40-42). These commandments had been given after His resurrection, but still in the power of the Spirit (v. 2), which an honor this puts upon the Holy Spirit, and how it emphasizes the importance of His work. The all-sufficient proof that Jesus really rose was that He was seen "through forty days" after His death. "Forty days" is the period of thorough testing (Duet. 8: 2; 1 K. 19: 8; Mat. 4: 2). During these forty days, there was one subject of conversation, "the things concerning the kingdom of God." Before leaving them Jesus laid a solemn charge upon them not to take up the commission of world-wide evangelization that He Himself had given them until they had received the all-essential fitting for the work, "the promise of the Father," the baptism with the Holy Spirit (v. 5, cf. Lu. 24: 49). They were to stay right there in Jerusalem and wait until they were "clothed with power from on high." In point of fact, they were kept waiting ten days. All through these ten days, they alone knew the Gospel which the world was perishing in ignorance of, yet they must "wait," how "wonderful" important in God's sight it is that those who would work for him receive the promise of the Father before they undertake the service. This promise of the Father was to be given "not many days hence"; evidently then, they had not yet received it, but they were already regenerated men (Jno. 13: 10; 15: 3); so it is clear that regeneration is one thing and the baptism with the Spirit something additional (cf. Ac. 8: 12, 15, 16).

2. The Ascending Christ, 6-9. The mention of "the promise of the Father"

seems to have suggested to the disciples the restoration of Israel so they ask: Jesus if He is about to restore the kingdom to Israel. His answer implies that the kingdom is some time to be restored to Israel (cf. Isa. 1: 25-27; 9: 7; Jer. 24: 5, 6; 23: 15-26; Eze. 36: 23-28; 37: 24-28; Hos. 3: 4, 5; Joel 2: 16-21; Amos 9: 11-15), but in the most emphatic way He tells them that God has reserved the knowledge of times and seasons to Himself (cf. Mat. 24: 36; Mk. 13: 32). When they should receive the kingdom, He does not disclose; when they should receive power, He does disclose (v. 8), this power would be theirs when the Holy Ghost had come upon them. They would not have power until then. How foolish then for us to try to work for Christ until we have sought and obtained the baptism with the Holy Spirit. The power of the Holy Spirit was not merely for the purpose of making them happy, but primarily for the purpose of making them useful, "witnesses" (cf. 2: 4; 4: 8-12, 21, 32; 5: 32; 9: 17, 20). They were to begin their witnessing right where they were when the Holy Ghost was received. "In Jerusalem," and they were then to go on and on, "unto the uttermost part of the earth." A true reception of the Holy Spirit by the Church means world-wide missions. As this was His parting message to us, how we ought to ponder it. He had lifted His hands to bless them as He finished the message (Lu. 24: 50, 51), and He went up with His hands stretched out in benediction and He has been blessing us ever since. His ascension was not merely a theological theory, but a historic fact, which they themselves saw clearly. They saw Him until the cloud, the Shekinah glory, took Him out of their sight (cf. Ex. 16: 9; 24: 5; Isa. 6: 1; Ps. 104: 2). He ascended in order "to appear in the presence of God in our behalf," and to "prepare a place for us" (Heb. 9: 24; Jno. 14: 2). His presence there makes us eternally secure (Rom. 8: 34; Heb. 7: 25), and His presence there now guarantees our presence there hereafter (Jno. 12: 26; 14: 3; Rev. 3: 21).

3. The Returning Christ, 10, 11. They strained their eyes to get another glimpse of Him, and then stood there gazing. "Two men in white" (cf. Mk. 16: 5; Lu. 24: 4, 23; Jno. 20: 12; Ac. 10: 3, 30) stood by them. These angels were practical. "Why stand ye looking into heaven?" they ask. There are times when it is right to look up steadfastly into heaven (ch. 7: 55) but there are times when duty calls to the earthward look. The right thing for the disciples to do just now was to do just what Jesus had bidden them (vs. 4, 12). The two in white gave a glorious promise to cheer the disciples and make it easy for them to live without fear, viz., Jesus was coming back again. So another Jesus, but "This Jesus" which was taken up from them, He was to come back just as He went up from them. He was to come back last just as He went, personally and visibly (the Greek is very emphatic and cannot be honestly reasoned away), and as He was received up in a cloud, He is coming in the clouds. This coming again of our Lord is the great hope of the Church during His absence (Tit. 2: 13).

4. The Obedient Disciples, 12-14. The disciples had been bidden to tarry at Jerusalem, not to "depart" but to "wait for the promise of the Father." They obeyed. This baptism was to be such a distinct operation of the Holy Spirit that they would know when they had received it and when therefore the time had come to depart. They spent their days of waiting not in listlessness but in prayer (v. 14). Their prayer was earnest, persistent, united, and as we shall see in the next lesson, answered.

Irish Seed Potatoes, just received a car of Bliss Triumph, Phoenix Seed and Feed Co.—Advertisement.

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FOUR TOWNS RUINED

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]
SAN SALVADOR, Dec. 31.—Advices

received here are that the towns of Talgut, Las Flores and San Sebastian, Honduras, were completely ruined during the recent earthquake shocks in that republic.



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